

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS PINT PE
SUBJ: ELECTORAL DEVELOPMENTS

REF: LIMA 5206

1. ELECTORAL COMMISSION PRESIDENT ULISES MONTOYA TOLD PRESS
JUNE 13 THAT EXILED CANDIDATES WHO ARE ELECTED WOULD BE GRANTED
FULL PARLIAMENTARY POWER, PRESUMABLY INCLUDING THEIR RIGHT TO BE
SEATED AND IMMUNITY FROM ARREST WHILE THE ASSEMBLY IS IN SESSION.
THE JNE ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT THE VOTING HOURS ON JUNE 18 WILL
BE EXTENDED TO 7 A.M. TO 5 P.M. BECAUSE OF PERU'S MIDDAY WORLD
CUP SOCCER MATCH.

2. PRESS AND OTHER SOURCES NOW INDICATE THAT SOME OR ALL OF THE
6 LEFTIST PARTIES (PSR, PDC, UDP, FOCEP AND ARS - PARA 1 REFTTEL)
MAY NOT WITHDRAW FROM THE RACE. DEPORTED FOCEP LEADER GENARO
LEDESMA, FOR INSTANCE, REPORTEDLY CALLED FROM PARIS TO RECOMMEND
TO HIS PARTY THAT THEY CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE, AND THE JNE
COMMENT ON THE RETURN OF ELECTED MEMBERS MAY HELP DISSUADE THEM
FROM WITHDRAWING. NONE OF THE PARTIES HAVE PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED
THIS DECISION, HOWEVER, AND THE THREAT OF A LEFTIST BOYCOTT
CONTINUES TO CLOUD THE PICTURE. POLLS AND INFORMAL SOUNDINGS SHOW
THAT AS MANY AS TWENTY PERCENT OF THE VOTERS MIGHT VOTE BLANK OR
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INVALIDATE THEIR BALLOT INTENTIONALLY OR THROUGH CONFUSION.
GIVEN THIS POSSIBILITY, A LEFTIST WITHDRAWAL REPRESENTING PER-
HAPS ANOTHER 20 PLUS PERCENT OF THE VOTE COULD CAST A
SHADOW OVER THE LEGITIMACY OF THE ELECTION.

3. THE HEAD OF GOP'S OFFICE OF INFORMATION (OCI) ANNOUNCED
JUNE 13 THAT SEVEN INDEPENDENT MAGAZINES NOW HAVE BEEN AUTHORIZED

TO PUBLISH: "GENTE", "CARETAS", "OIGA", "UNIDAD" (MOSCOW COMMUNIST OFFICIAL WEEKLY), "LIMA TIMES", "ABC" AND "TIC TAC". WITH THE EXCEPTION OF "UNIDAD" THE MAGAINES ARE IDENTIFIED WITH THE CENTER OR RIGHT RATHER THAN THE MARXIST LEFT (PARA 9, LIMA 4727). OCI ALSO STATED THAT THE REQUESTS OF OTHER MAGAZINES TO REPUBLISH WERE BEING STUDIED. HOWEVER, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT ANY CAN BE PUBLISHED BEFORE THE ELECTIONS.

4. LUIS BEDOYA REYES PPC RALLY IN LIMA JUNE 13 SEEMED RELATIVELY SUCCESSFUL, ALTHOUGH IT PRODUCED ONLY ABOUT TWO THIRDS OF THE TURNOUT FOR APRA'S HAYA DE LA TORRE JANUARY 6 (LIMA 0227). AS HAS OCCURRED IN PPC MEETINGS OUTSIDE OF LIMA, "LEFTIST" YOUTHS TRIED TO CREATE DISTURBANCES WHICH WERE QUICKLY CONTROLLED BY THE POLICE. THE CROWD WAS GENERALLY ATTENTIVE BUT RARELY DEMONSTRATIVE. BEDOYA DID MENTION THAT PPC WOULD BE WILLING TO COOPERATE WITH THE OTHER MAJOR PARTY (APRA) IN THE ASSEMBLY AND CALLED ON THE GOP NOT TO ISSUE DECREE LAWS THAT WOULD WORK AGAINST THE COMING CIVILIAN REGIME (LIMA 5151).

DECON 12-80. SHLAUDEMAN

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